

Council Study Session 6

Focus: Circulation

The Council study session on circulation addressed:

- Street hierarchy
- Circulation concepts with different approaches for dealing with local and through traffic
- Sections showing how the right-of-way could be used

The study session was initiated with a discussion of the trip patterns downtown. Approximately 8,000 vehicles enter the downtown area in the PM peak hour, of which approximately 50% have destinations downtown and 50% is through traffic.

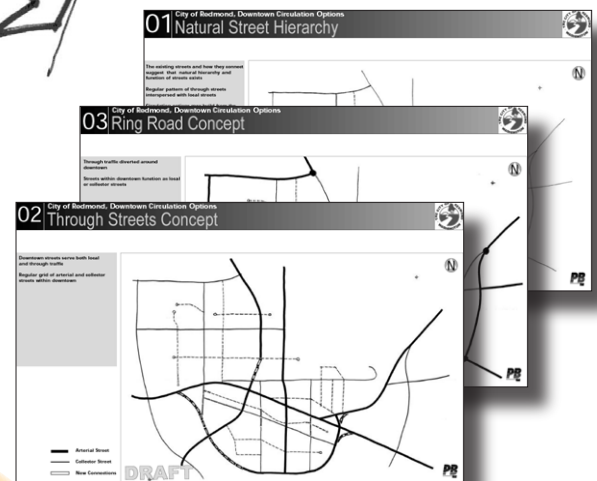
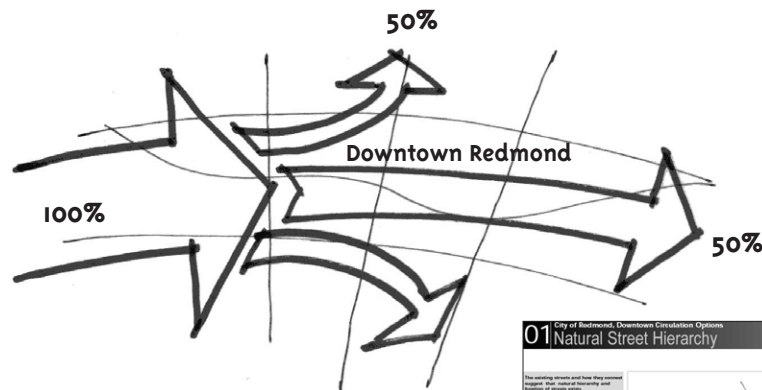
Redmond already has a natural street hierarchy: local and collector streets occur at regular intervals and form a grid. Despite this, the street system is difficult to navigate and lacking in “readability”. For example, streets often intersect at odd angles, and the streets in the downtown generally look alike and offer no cues as to the function of the street. Local residential streets are often as wide as arterial streets. A street plan for the downtown should build on the natural hierarchy that exists and should define a clearer street hierarchy. Typical sections for each type of street were presented to illustrate how to establish this hierarchy.

The Council considered two circulation concepts:

- A well developed grid of arterial streets in the downtown that would carry both local and through traffic
- Creating a ring road to allow through traffic to move around the downtown, with no arterial streets in the downtown.

Stakeholders on Circulation

- *Improve pedestrian & transportation connections to downtown*
- *Improve pedestrian connections around downtown*
- *Participants experience downtown during business hours*
- *Improve traffic flow*



Outcomes

- ✓ Supported developing a more defined street hierarchy
- ✓ Supported need to accommodate local and through traffic
- ✓ Mixed opinion on design of streets and an appropriate number of travel lanes

